

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NICOSI 00524 250545Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
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R 250430Z FEB 78

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7329

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USNMR SHAPE BEL

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT

USMISSION USNATO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

DIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 0524

BRUSSELS FOR USEEC

USCINCEUR FOR POLAD

USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PGOV, CY, US

SUBJECT: LYSSARIDES' DIVERSIONARY ACTIVITY

1. IN WAKE OF NICOSIA ASSASSINATION OF AAPMSO SECGEN
AL SIBAI AND SUBSEQUENT EGYPTIAN-CYPRIOT ARMED CLASH AT
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LARNACA, SOCIALIST EDEK PARTY CHAIRMAN LYSSARIDES AND PARTY
ORGAN TA NEA HAVE LAUNCHED A CAMPAIGN TO DIVERT ATTENTION
FROM LYSSARIDES' PROMINENT ROLE IN FIASCO AND PLACE BLAME
PRIMARILY ON U.S. AND ITS "ALLIES," EGYPT AND ISRAEL.

2. IN FEB 23 LEAD ARTICLE, TA NEA REPORTED THAT
EGYPTIAN MILITARY ATTACHE, ISRAELI INTELLIGENCE STATION

CHIEF AND U.S. ASSISTANT DEFENSE ATTACHE CO-
ORDINATED EGYPTIAN COMMANDO ACTIVITIES AT LARNACA AIR-
PORT. PURPOSE OF "COLLABORATION" WAS AGAINST ANTI-
OCCUPATION STRUGGLE OF CYPRUS, NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVE-
MENT OF ARABS AND PALESTINIAN REVOLUTION WITH ULTIMATE
OBJECTIVE UNDERMINING OF CYPRUS AND KYPRIANOU TO CREATE
PREREQUISITE FOR EMERGENCE OF A PRO-WESTERN FIGURE
PRIOR TO KYPRIANOU'S FEB 28 INVESTITURE AS PRESIDENT.

3. IN DIFFERENT VEIN, BUT PROBABLY WITH SIMILAR MOTIVE,
LYSSARIDES SPOKE IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FEB 23
ACCUSING U.S. ENVOY CLARK CLIFFORD OF HAVING FORCED
LATE PRESIDENT INTO A PREMATURE DEATH. SPEAKING AS
"MAKARIO'S PERSONAL PHYSICIAN" LYSSARIDES SAID THAT
CLIFFORD'S PRESSURES FOR CONCESSIONS HAD LED MAKARIOS
PREMATURELY TO THE GRAVE. FURTHER, "I AM IN A POSITION
TO KNOW WHAT AN IMMENSE PSYCHOLOGICAL AND BIO-
LOGICAL BLOW IT HAD BEEN FOR MAKARIO WHEN HE BECAME
AWARE OF THE DECEIT AND STARTED THE PLANNED MATERIALI-
ZATION OF A LONG STRUGGLE."

4. COMMENT. LYSSARIDES APPEARS TO US TO BE UNCOM-
FORTABLE IN HIS AWARENESS THAT HIS EXTREMELY HIGH-
PROFILE DIRECTION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE
TERRORISTS AND THE SUBSEQUENT DEBACLE HAVE LEFT
HIM DANGEROUSLY EXPOSED TO CRITICISM. HIS INITIAL
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RESPONSE SEEMS TO BE A RATHER HEAVY-HANDED ATTEMPT
TO DIVERT ATTENTION ELSEWHERE AND TO OVER-APPLAUD
KYPRIANOU'S "MANAGEMENT" OF THE SITUATION.
CRAWFORD

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NNN

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